In the Specification:

Please amend equation (2) on page 9, line 18, ane the following text on lines 19-20, as follows:

carbon dioxide evolution rate $\underline{(\mu mol/h)}$ = ($\underline{V}$ [[0.1]] × 10^3 × $M/2$)/[[60f]] $\underline{(t/60)}$, wherein M is the <u>molarity of the</u> alkaline concentration of the solution, $\underline{V}$ <u>is a volume of the increment of the alkaline solution in milliliters,</u> and t is the time increment <u>in minutes</u>.